

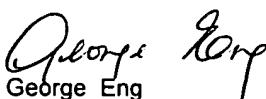


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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/779,317	02/08/2001	Tsuguhide Sakata	1232-4681	4553
7590	02/09/2004		EXAMINER	
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P. 345 Park Avenue New York, NY 10154			ENG, GEORGE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2643	12
			DATE MAILED: 02/09/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	Application No. 09/779,317	Applicant(s) SAKATA, TSUGUHIDE
	Examiner George Eng	Art Unit 2643
	--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --	
<p>THE REPLY FILED 23 January 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.</p>		
PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]		
<p>a) <input type="checkbox"/> The period for reply expires <u> </u> months from the mailing date of the final rejection.</p> <p>b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.</p> <p>ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).</p>		
<p>Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).</p>		
<p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) <input type="checkbox"/> they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below); (b) <input type="checkbox"/> they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below); (c) <input type="checkbox"/> they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or (d) <input type="checkbox"/> they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims. <p>NOTE: _____. </p>		
<p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____. </p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s). </p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The a)<input type="checkbox"/> affidavit, b)<input type="checkbox"/> exhibit, or c)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: <u>see attachment</u>. </p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection. </p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a)<input type="checkbox"/> will not be entered or b)<input type="checkbox"/> will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended. </p> <p>The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:</p> <p>Claim(s) allowed: _____. </p> <p>Claim(s) objected to: _____. </p> <p>Claim(s) rejected: _____. </p> <p>Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____. </p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> The drawing correction filed on _____ is a)<input type="checkbox"/> approved or b)<input type="checkbox"/> disapproved by the Examiner. </p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____. </p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. </p>		
 George Eng Primary Examiner Art Unit: 2643		

1. Applicant's arguments filed 1/23/2004 (paper no. 11) have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., automatically select between DVC and STB modes and automatically switch back and forth between different mode) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

In response to applicant's argument that Clapp fails to teach or suggest a mode selecting means that is able to automatically select between different modes of operation, it appears that Clapp clearly teaches the audio/visual communication system is capable of providing stand-alone video capability for unassisted operation, i.e., a first operation mode (col. 7 lines 17-29) and to transfer video data to be displayed to external processor in accordance with control commands received from the external data processor, i.e., a second operation, when the external connection interface determines that the audio/visual communication system coupled to a separate host computer system (col. 7 lines 30-49) so that the external connection interface is functioning as a means for automatically selecting between different modes of operation depending upon whether the audio/visual communication system is connected with the separate host computer or not. Thus, it recognizes Clapp obviously having mode setting means for automatically selecting the first operation mode for unassisted operation when the audio/visual communication system is detected not coupling to the separate host computer system and the second operation mode when the audio/visual communication system is detected in coupling to the separate host computer

system. As a result, the combination of Clapp and Rodriguez is enough to reject the broad claimed limitations.